CHAPTER NO. 724

HOUSE BILL NO. 2977

By Representatives Cooper, Marrero, Rowe, Lois DeBerry, Larry Turner, Miller, Kernell, Pruitt, Langster, Brown, Towns

Substituted for: Senate Bill No. 3171

By Senators Williams, Harper, Kyle, Bowers

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 71, Chapter 1 and Title 71, Chapter 3, relative to child care.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. The comptroller of the treasury is urged to study the implementation and impact of the "Three Star System" as it implements the voluntary child care agency rated licensing system authorized by Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 71-3-502(j). As a part of the study the comptroller shall examine contracting practices in the development of standards for assessment under the system and role of monitors in such assessments. The study shall assess benefits to child care associated with the system and impacts on child care providers who participate in the system. The comptroller shall consult with the department of human services and child care providers in developing this study. If a study is conducted, the comptroller shall report any findings and recommendations of such study to the general assembly on or before January 15, 2007.

SECTION 2. The comptroller of the treasury is urged to study the requirements concerning transportation related to child care imposed by amendments to Rule 1240-4-3-.10 that took effect on July 1, 2003, December 13, 2003, January 1, 2005, and October 17, 2005. The study shall assess the impact of such rules on the safety of children and on child care providers. The study shall also assess the impact of changes in reimbursement for transportation authorized by Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 71-1-130 on child care providers and on access to child care, as a part of the study shall assess any impacts on access to child care services associated with such changes. The comptroller shall consult with the department of human services and child care providers in developing this study. If a study is conducted, the comptroller shall report any findings and recommendations of such study to the general assembly on or before January 15, 2007.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

PASSED: May 10, 2006

JIIMMY NAIFEH, SPEAKER HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

> JOHN S. WILDER SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

APPROVED this 19th day of May

2006

PHIL BREDESEN, GOVERNOR